

OBITUARIES

ROBERT C. LASIEWSKI, an Elective Member of the A.O.U., died suddenly on 2 August 1971 at Gainesville, Florida, where he had gone to assume the Chairmanship of the Department of Zoology at the University of Florida. Bob Lasiewski was an outstanding comparative physiologist who, at the age of 35, had established himself as a leading researcher on the physiological adaptations of birds. Born in Jersey City, New Jersey, on 14 November 1936, he received his A.B. in Zoology from Cornell University in 1958 and an M.S. (1960) and Ph.D. (1962) from the University of Michigan, where his major professor was William R. Dawson. His academic record was outstanding, and among numerous honors was a Marcia B. Tucker Award from the A.O.U. in 1961. Lasiewski's doctoral dissertation was on the physiological responses to temperature in hummingbirds, and this work and his subsequent investigations on hummingbirds constitute the most thorough and authoritative studies of the physiology of these remarkable birds. His other noteworthy ornithological research included investigations on the relationship of metabolic rate and body size, thermoregulation, and respiration, and he authored the chapter on avian respiratory function in the forthcoming Volume II of "Avian biology" (Academic Press, D. S. Farner and J. R. King, Eds.). Lasiewski was equally at home in the laboratory and in the field, and he had worked on Ostriches in Africa, frogmouths (*Podargus*) in New Guinea, and North American birds in many different habitats. He was also an outstanding teacher at all levels—undergraduate and graduate—and gave unsparingly of his time as an advisor to student groups and to individuals. His capabilities as a biologist were greatly augmented by his athletic prowess and a warm, outgoing personality that made him equally popular with students and colleagues. His untimely death is a great loss to the field of physiological ornithology as well as to all those who knew him personally. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, and two sons, Erik and Gregory.—THOMAS R. HOWELL.

JAMES ROBERT BEER. Stricken at the peak of his career by a heart attack from which he never recovered, James R. Beer, ornithologist, mammalogist, and wildlife ecologist, died in Minnesota on 24 August 1971. Born in Black Rock, Oregon on 28 April 1918, he attended Washington State University, graduated with a B.S. in 1940, and earned his M.S. the following year. His research while at that institution was on waterfowl and blue grouse. His first position in his chosen field of Wildlife Management was as game biologist with the Montana Game and Fish Division for one year. This was followed by a 3½-year interlude as a draftsman for Kaiser Industries at Vancouver, Washington, but he returned to the academic environment in 1945 as a graduate student, teaching assistant, and museum curator at the University of Wisconsin, where he received his Ph.D. degree in 1949. During this interval his research was on Red-winged Blackbirds, the ecology of bats, and muskrat populations. Next he joined the staff of the University of Minnesota, Division of Entomology, Fisheries and Wildlife as an economic zoologist (1949), teaching courses in mammalogy, wildlife techniques, upland game birds, and wildlife ecology. His research continued on bats but he also carried on population studies of birds and small mammals, ectoparasites of birds and rodents, the ecology of the pocket gopher, and, as the last phase of his career, radiotelemetry studies on Spruce and Sharp-tailed Grouse. He had the facility of combining field studies with physiological studies in the laboratory. He was a prodigious worker, showing great stamina until felled by a massive heart attack in the field. He succumbed some two months later.

Two highlights of his career were coauthoring the book "Mammals of Minnesota" and serving as editor of the *Journal of Mammalogy* from 1962 to 1964. His affiliation with the American Ornithologists' Union commenced in 1939. This account of his life and work is based on an obituary by William H. Marshall that appeared in the *Journal of Wildlife Management*, 36: 205-206, 1972.—WILLIAM H. BEHLE.

CHESTER M. FENNEL. On 21 January 1972 Asia lost a staunch friend and a well-known ornithologist. Chester M. Fennell, known as Chet by his many friends, was born 22 June 1914 at Cleveland, Ohio, of Norman A. and Lydia W. Fennell. He spent his boyhood on a farm near Olmsted Falls, Ohio, where he learned to know and enjoy the birds of the Ohio woodlands. Although interested in nature as a youth, his first love was music and he graduated at the age of 22 from the Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory of music, Berea, Ohio, having majored in piano and organ. He retained his interest in music, but devoted his life to people.

After attending the University of Chicago he worked for a while as a ranger in Yosemite National Park. He joined the U. S. Civil Service in 1942 in personnel work. He was soon in Hawaii and then transferred to Korea where Col. L. R. Wolfe taught him to skin birds. He went to Japan in 1948 (Kobe, Kyoto, Tokyo), and remained until after the disturbances in Korea. He loved the Orient and especially Korea where he worked with Korean problems relating to U. S. Army personnel for nearly 15 years. During these years he made short trips to Malaysia, India, and Nepal for bird studies and collections. He also served in South Vietnam and in Japan as Director of the Civilian Personnel Section.

I first met Chet in Japan in 1950. He had become a member of the A.O.U. and turned to bird study for relaxation, collecting and preparing bird skins as a hobby. His beautifully-made skins totalled over the years about 4,500 specimens, now deposited in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California. There were four of us then, in the field watching and collecting Japanese birds: Chet, Smitty (Capt. Robert Smith, artist, bird man, and Airforce M.D.), Jack Moyer (sergeant then, now a well-known English teacher in Japan), and myself. Chet went to Korea, Smitty returned to the States, Jack stayed in Japan at Miyake Island, and I went to Malaya. Through the years we have all met occasionally when our paths again crossed in Japan.

I saw Chet on my occasional visits to Korea. He built a tremendous collection of Korean birds; his simple bachelor quarters were so full of cabinets and boxes there was hardly room for his bed and none for his great Eagle Owl, which he had to keep outside. He had also made a collection of Taiwanese birds while visiting there in 1959, which proved useful to the biologists of the U. S. Naval Medical Research Unit at Taipei. Military restrictions and also his health prevented him indulging in his hobby while serving in Vietnam.

Back in Japan in 1971, he had already weathered a heart attack while in Vietnam and was contemplating retirement in April 1972. A second struck him down while playing his piano for friends at his home at Camp Zama, Tokyo. He was buried at Fairview Park, Ohio.

Chet published sparingly on his oriental bird watching. His ten papers on Korean birds between 1952 and 1966 were published mainly in the *Condor*, and several about Japanese birds in "Elepaio." He kept copious notes on his field observations and was compiling these for a book about Asian birds. Chet never married and his library and manuscripts are with his brother Howard S. Fennell in Rocky River, Ohio.—H. ELLIOTT McCLEURE.

DANIEL SANFORD LEHRMAN, Distinguished Professor of Psychology and Director of the Institute of Animal Behavior, Rutgers University, died on 29 August 1972 while on vacation in New Mexico. He was 53 years old.

Although he was trained as a psychologist, a boyhood passion for ornithology remained with him throughout his life and his research career was devoted to the study of bird behavior. His first published work was with G. K. Noble on egg recognition by Laughing Gulls; it appeared in *The Auk* in 1940. Since taking his Ph.D. in 1954 his principal research interest was the analysis of hormone-behavior relationships in the breeding of Ring Doves. He made outstanding progress in unravelling the ways in which stimulation from the behavior of the mate, from the nest, from the eggs, and from the young affect endocrine state, and how endocrine state affects reaction to these stimuli and the physiological processes and behavior that bring them into being, in an order which functionally integrates the activities of the two birds of a pair with one another and with the succession of events of the breeding cycle. The influence and authority of this work is reflected in the fact that reference to it has become virtually indispensable in contributions to the literature of hormones and behavior in birds and other vertebrates.

At least equally important has been Professor Lehrman's impact on the study of animal behavior in general. His "A critique of Konrad Lorenz's theory of instinctive behavior" (1953, *Quart. Rev. Biol.* 28: 337) inaugurated a phase of critical reform in ethological thinking and theory. In lectures and publications he kept up a lively commentary on various conceptual and theoretical aspects of animal behavior study. He blended a tough-minded empiricism with an appreciation of the place of motives, tastes and preconceptions, and values in scientific endeavour, as will be found in two of his most recent articles: "Semantic and conceptual issues in the nature-nurture problem" (1970, *in* Development and evolution of behavior (L. R. Aronson, E. Tobach, D. S. Lehrman, and J. S. Rosenblatt, Eds.), San Francisco, W. H. Freeman) and "Behavioral science, engineering and poetry" (1971, *in* Biopsychology of development (E. Tobach and L. R. Aronson, Eds.), New York, Academic Press).

Professor Lehrman was born in New York City in 1919. He attended the Townsend Harris High School in the Bronx, a school for intellectually gifted children. During his freshman year at City College he began an association with the American Museum of Natural History that he maintained throughout his life. There he came under the influence of Kingsley Noble, Libby Hyman, Ernst Mayr, Frank Beach, and others who nurtured his interest in biology and animal behavior. The Second World War interrupted his studies with a period of military service during which he was a cryptanalyst. He completed his Bachelor's degree in 1947 and then began his Ph.D. studies at New York University under the supervision of T. C. Schneierla. Schneierla's approach to the study of animal behavior was a guiding influence throughout the rest of Professor Lehrman's career. In 1950 he was appointed Assistant Professor of Psychology in the Newark College of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University. In 1958 he was promoted to Professor and the following year established the Institute of Animal Behavior, of which he was appointed the Director. The Institute has acquired an international reputation as a center for animal behavior research and training. Since its founding the Institute has been supported by liberal grants from the U. S. Public Health Service, the National Science Foundation, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and other granting agencies. In 1963 Professor Lehrman was awarded a Research Career Award. Among other marks of recognition of his achievements were election to Membership of the National Academy of Sciences (1970); election as Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1971); and the Howard Crosby Warren

Medal of the Society of Experimental Psychologists (1970). He was an Editor of *Advances in the Study of Behavior*, and an Associate Editor of *The Journal of Physiological and Experimental Psychology*, and a Consulting Editor for numerous other learned journals. He acted as consultant to a number of granting agencies and served on scientific committees of national and international standing. He was a member of numerous learned and scientific societies, including the American Ornithologists' Union, which he joined in 1959 and of which he was made an Elective Member in 1960—one of the shortest intervals in the Union's history.

Professor Lehrman dated his fascination with birds to his 14th year, when he was taken on a bird walk with a group of Boy Scouts in a New York park. To the end of his life he took delight in and pursued experience of encounter with new species, and if he had been offered a wish it might have been to see all the different kinds of birds that exist, in the places where they live. He once said that in birds he found himself enthralled by a kind of existence different from his own—a form of life that was to him both mysterious and beautiful. This simple, yet also very complex, wonder was reflected in the quality of his work on birds, and was communicated by the way he talked and wrote about his work. He was an inspiring and exciting teacher, who had a gift for opening the minds and senses of his audience to the kind of impassioned fascination that attended his perception of birds and their lives. He was proud of and placed high value on this influence. Those who came under it will be forever grateful. His family, friends, colleagues, and students, who are distributed around the world, mourn the passing of a warm, generous, sensitive, and positive man, who was also a brilliant scientist and scholar.—COLIN G. BEER.

MANTON COPELAND was a 19-year-old Harvard freshman when he became a member of the A.O.U. at its 18th annual meeting in Cambridge in November 1900. Association with the Union was maintained until his death on 22 May 1971, at which time he was the senior member. He had become an Honorary Life Member in 1942.

Copeland was born in Taunton, Massachusetts on 24 July 1881, the son of Henry P. and Abbie Dean Copeland. He was educated at Bristol Academy in Taunton and received a bachelor's degree at Harvard in 1904, followed by a master's degree in Biology in 1905, and a Ph.D. in 1908. That year he joined the faculty of Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, becoming a full professor in 1910 and Josiah Little Professor of Natural Science in 1934, a chair he held until his retirement in 1947. Soon after the title passed to Alfred O. Gross (late Fellow of the A.O.U.), his junior colleague by four years. He married Ruth Winsor Ripley of Taunton in 1910, who predeceased him in 1965. At his death he was survived by 4 children, 15 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild.

Manton Copeland was the stereotyped "typical" sedentary New Englander. He had a summer home at Woods Hole, Massachusetts, but seldom went farther afield. In the autobiography prepared for his 25th Harvard reunion he noted that he had once been to England, had traveled south to Florida, and had been as far west as New York.

Early in his career he published a few short papers covering such diverse topics as some mammals from Maine and olfaction in a fish and newt; his last publication appears to have been a paper with A. C. Bent, a long-time friend from Taunton, on the distribution of some birds in Florida (*Auk* 1927, 44: 371).

"Copey," as he was known to generations of students, was a friendly, witty, and thoroughly charming person, but these attributes were concealed beneath a reserve that perhaps was a shield for shyness. His avocations were numerous, diverse, and

pursued with an intensity and meticulousness that kept him from larger contributions to ornithology. These interests ranged from a carefully prepared collection of butterflies that he kept in a basement room (his "understudy") reached by a concealed trapdoor, through the construction of numerous tidal pools (named after family and friends) that could be viewed from a lovely summerhouse (the "Copecabana") at his Woods Hole home, and to a large collection of antique sewing birds, a device clamped to a table to provide a "third-hand," for which he carefully prepared a taxonomy.

Manton Copeland's role in biology was small; doubtless he saw it no differently. However, he was a delightfully colorful and interesting man who enriched the lives of his numerous friends to a degree that anyone might envy.—RAYMOND A. PAYNTER, JR.

LEONID ALEKSANDROVICH PORTENKO was born in the town of Smela, near Kiev, Ukrainian S. S. R., on 11 October 1896; he died in Leningrad on May 26, 1972. He was elected a Corresponding Fellow of the A.O.U. in 1961 and an honorary member of the Deutsche Ornithologen-Gesellschaft in 1963.

A pupil and disciple of M. A. Menzbier, Prof. Portenko became an illustrious teacher who was proud of the students he trained in ornithology. He was very active afield, from Kirgizia, the Ukraine, and northern Urals northward to Novaya Zemlya, the Taimyr Peninsula, and Wrangel Island, and eastward to Anadyrland and the Chukotsk Peninsula. During World War II, when most of the staff of the Zoological Institute of the Academy of Sciences in Leningrad was evacuated to Tadzhikistan, he remained in the besieged city to take care of the collections.

Portenko published over a hundred papers and books on ornithology. Of major importance to students of North American—and especially Alaskan—ornithology is "The birds of the Chukotsk Peninsula and Wrangel Island," part 1 (in Russian) (1972, Leningrad, "Nauka" Publ. House, 423 pp., illus.) It covers loons through shorebirds and was reviewed briefly in *Bird-Banding* (1972, 43: 307). According to Prof. A. I. Ivanov, who provided some of the above information, Portenko had completed work on the second (final) part of this work and it is scheduled to appear in 1973.—RALPH S. PALMER.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir:

To a questionnaire asking for information on their employment situation sent last fall to some 70 women ornithologists, 7 of them outside the U. S., 27 responded. Two of these women are not employed because they have children at home, four are over 65 years of age, and the rest are employed. When asked whether they felt they had been discriminated against because of being women, their replies varied. Several said they had always been treated fairly and a few added that women should not make themselves "unhappy" by "wanting money" or "dominance." The majority said that hiring practices were discriminatory, salaries lower, and promotions slower for women than for men. On a more subtle level, they discussed general psychological putdowns and restrictions to job opportunities in towns where their husbands are employed.